

# </.> StartTech Meet Up

Esri South Africa hosted its first StartTech meet up on the 14th of September which featured industry professionals who shared invaluable insights on building Tech Startups. StartTech's aim is to form a community for developers, entrepreneurs, Startup in South Africa to allow them to come together, learn and network.

Keynote Speaker Michael van Andel represented the fast-growing social media platform called Gather Online. The app allows its users to share what's on their mind with people on their wavelength. Michael informed delegates on the best practices and principles applicable to tackling current and future challenges in the South African software development environment.

Abu Cassim, founder of Jozi Angels, an Angel network based in Johannesburg, highlighted the best strategies for Startup companies to get investor ready. Abu inspired the delegates regardless of their specific technology stack and programming language of choice.

Richard Kaufholz and Yvette Bevis demonstrated how quickly you can create an app that allows users to request their nearest transport service using JavaScript.

They also emphasized how you can use open data, geo-location and ArcGIS to create a powerful app in minutes.

Six Startup companies were given the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to industry experts and receive direct feedback. The event was well received by all who attended and forms a platform for similar future events where we can showcase the power of ArcGIS and how it can compliment the projects Startups have conceived.

